

Michigan Mirror

Reed Dons Robes of Highest Court

LANSING, Feb. 10.—If a special session of the legislature is called by Governor Murphy, it will be to provide additional relief for unemployed rather than to enact labor legislation.

This is the present outlook at the state capitol where the picture has changed materially within the past six months. When the legislature adjourned last summer, the business barometer had not registered a tailspin fall. Times were still good, and labor was yet in a mood to demand increased wages and betterment of working conditions. The need for labor relations mediation at that time had convinced the governor of the advisability of having a special session in the fall, probably as early as October.

The peak of the labor sit-down strikes occurred in the peak of the 1937 business barometer. When jobs are plentiful and workers are in demand, labor finds the greatest opportunity to get what it asks for.

Reverse the order, and you have an entirely new situation. The picture has changed.

Relief Now Paramount
Whereas social justice legislation was sponsored by the governor six months ago, the needs of welfare relief have come to the front.

The state budget was left \$17,000,000 out of balance when lawmakers left Lansing.

Last fall the respective deficit was reduced to approximately \$5,000,000 through executive action in trimming legislative appropriations. Today, the fiscal deficit threatens to rise to \$10,000,000, according to Budget Director H. O. East. At a mid-January estimate. And ten million dollars in the red is something to worry about.

The budget problem is complicated by the fact that the Michigan relief burden has doubled in the past four months, jumping from \$7,500 in September to \$15,023 in January. On January 31 the state had \$3,000,000 remaining in its welfare appropriation. The January-February allotment has already been increased \$760,000 over the amounts anticipated by the legislature.

More Spending, More Taxes?
For the past five years under administrations of both parties the state government each year has spent more money.

The state has undertaken new responsibilities, more than at the insistence of folks back home. The 1937 general session of the legislature was the first since 1892 of how home communities implore Lansing to come to their aid in appropriating more money for their own local needs.

Disbursements of the state government for the fiscal year ending last June 30 showed that nearly 60 per cent of state monies went to local governments. Whereas the state spent \$1,987,000 on its own needs, it also sent \$80,539,000 back to local governments. The \$1 millions for state needs were exclusive of the liquor control commission's expenditures for liquor stocks.

In annual totals, here is the factual record for the past five years: 1932—\$4,566,998; 1933—\$15,184,834; 1934—\$15,884,193; 1935—\$19,714,884; 1937—\$23,485,319.

Up and curve in state expenditures has continued to go upward since June 30 of last year. In fact, the records show that the state spent during the last six months of 1937 approximately \$14,000,000 more than it took in. Expenditures from July to December totaled \$12,143,000. The disbursements for the same period in the previous year were \$103,323,000.



Miss Porter

Boistering the tribunal's liberal majority, 54-year-old Stanley Reed has ascended to the U. S. Supreme Court. The former U. S. solicitor-general, President Roosevelt's second appointee to the Court, is pictured above wearing the traditional robes of his office.

gram to make the consumer "apple conscious."

Another apple merchandising week is being sponsored by apple growers in more than 100,000 retail stores throughout the nation.

Large stocks of fruit still remain in storage for movement into consuming channels.

With the fruit prices very attractively, Michigan citizens can afford to enjoy baked apples for breakfast, luncheon and dinner every day. Maybe the doctor won't like it, but the household budget will.

Lower Farm Income
Although the federal government's farm bounty in 1938 will soar past the billion mark, the Michigan prospects are that farmers will have a lowered cash income, according to R. V. Gunn, research specialist in agricultural economics at Michigan State College.

The domestic demand for products is likely to decline, while prices of commodities the farmer has to buy are apt to go up.

The outlook, in brief:
Wheat—Acreage the same, income lower.

Beets—Acreage reduced, price-remains steady.

Sugar beets—Acreage likely to be considerably increased.

Potatoes—Same acreage as last year; prices better.

Apples—Production fairly stationary.

Peaches—Trend upward.

Pears—Production at near-high level.

Cherries—Production apt to increase steadily.

Grapes—Production on decline, due to low prices and neglect of vineyards.

Strawberries—Acreage likely to increase sharply due to high prices in 1937.

Dairying—Most favorable winter since 1930.

Poultry—Egg prices likely to improve with favorable feed-egg price ratio. Chicken prices apt to be lower during second half of 1938.

Live stock—Consumer demand to be less favorable.

Historic Hoaxes

By Elmo Scott Waxson

A President Hoaxed
IT ISN'T often that hoaxers dare invade the dignity of a President of the United States. That it happened at least once in history, in 1901 President Theodore Roosevelt was scheduled to visit Charleston, S. C., and speak at the exposition there. Several formal receptions were planned for the distinguished guest by the citizens of Charleston. They women gave them the shock of their lives!

She was a social climber, a "lion hunter" who was determined to add lustre to her collection of celebrities just to pay off the society women of Charleston who had snubbed her. So when Roosevelt came ashore at the South harbor after an excursion around the harbor, she managed to reach his side and asked if he would stop at her house for a cup of tea.

The President thanked her but explained that the committee had requested him to accept no personal invitations. Thereupon she played her ace. She wanted him to come to please an old negro who had been the faithful servant of her family since slavery days. "He would be happy if only such a thing could come to him as handing a cup of tea to his President," she said.

So Roosevelt accepted her invitation for the sake of pleasing the old slave. The women of Charleston were enraged when they learned how the "climber" had triumphed over them. But the men were less enraged than amused at the woman's cleverness. It seems that she had come from the West and her family had never owned a slave. The "faithful old servant" had been hired for this special occasion.

TWO OF ONE

By Marjorie Elaine Pester
I may be a voice crying in the wilderness, but—
I DON'T LIKE THE BIG APPLE!
After observing it, I've come to the conclusion that an "Apple" a day should be enough to place any dancer under a doctor's care.

More than that, after watching a wildly gyrating group in the throes of the Big Apple, I feel in a melancholy mood. To me the dance is an indication of racial deterioration. At any rate, it seems symbolic of the age in which we are living—getting nowhere fast!

It is a reckless expenditure of energy. It is uncouth, primitive, undignified, and as lacking in grace as the antics of a baboon. The dancers tie themselves in knots then scramble themselves like eggs.

Watching the damed, one might justifiably conclude that mental processes had ceased, as far as those dancing were concerned. For so it certainly appears.

Why is the "Big Apple" popular? Probably because it's just another dance following the trend back toward the primitive. Because it is a little more furious, a little more stimulating than its predecessors—"The Shag," "Susie Q" and "Trucking."

Why do they dance it? Everybody's dancing it, and that, as a reason, should suffice. But other, it doesn't. Down through the ages, dances have had significance of the manner in which people lived.

Consider the lovely Minuet: It belongs to an age which produced George Washington, Lafayette, the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Independence, the Monroe Doctrine. It is a dance which expresses dignity, reserve and grace of the people of that era. And it's easy to understand why great men enjoyed it, because in so doing, they sacrificed nothing of their self-respect. George Washington might dance and still retain his dignity as a general, his prestige as a statesman.

Then there was the gay Virginia Reel, and all the other square dances that followed in its wake. The waltz was frowned upon as frivolous when it was first introduced. It was considered a little too familiar in that it necessitated the gentleman placing his arm around his partner's waist. Would that they divined, who raised their eyebrows at the waltz could witness the Big Apple!

At any rate, this disapproval was significant of a fine regard not only for the conventions, but for the ethics of polite society; it is not beyond one's imagination to picture those who figured prominently in history dancing the Virginia Reel, polkas, cotillions, waltzes.

But today we have the Big Apple! If the men of this generation whose names will go down in history, are dancing it—we may safely assume that future generations will look back upon the dance and exclaim, "No wonder they had depression!"

By Carol Dweley
Maddened by our last century in the realms of fashion, we couldn't resist looking at another of the magis, whose function is to bring elegance into the lives of the four million. There's really nothing to it, as they have to do in a case like this, to pry for the gal to select her gowns by the bale; just as it is natural that her dog should be a certain breed, to which she is attached in Venice (while she was there for the skiing or shooting or whatever they do in Venice), her pet, Detweiler VanReeves-Higginbottom is around.)

We don't think it's quite cricket of her to take on a mongrel, even if she is proud of being so Bohemian, some of these portfolios of plough and kenos, which she has absorbed, and different doctrines to keep you a date for weeks.

It is natural that Mrs. Detweiler VanReeves-Higginbottom should be the owner of a chafed cigarette case, heavily encrusted with gems, states one of them. And that ain't all. 'T would seem that it is also appropriate for the gal to select her gowns by the bale; just as it is natural that her dog should be a certain breed, to which she is attached in Venice (while she was there for the skiing or shooting or whatever they do in Venice), her pet, Detweiler VanReeves-Higginbottom is around.)

Probably the dog is kind of disgruntled at it too, especially if they ever run into any of his old friends in Venice, happily disporting themselves among peas and freedom galore. They might sneer at his, as he wandered across some palazzo, trying to hide behind his mistress' \$250 skirts.

"Shucks fellows," we can hear him saying, "After all, how could I turn her down when she was so insistent? You know there's no harm in the girl trying to come up in the world. Anyways, I'm just breaking her in for a friend."

Aaah meeee . . . it must be an awful chore to be a big shot like Mrs. D. VAN-REEVES. Personally, we would consider it something of a problem. Fancy one's modification if one proffered one's gold-darned-covered-with-gems to a friend, only to find that the darned thing was empty? The only possible solution would be to maintain a servant whose sole duty was to keep your diamonds safe. No doubt one would need a watchman as well, to see that the servant didn't pop the case and substitute one from Joe's Cat Rate Drugs—not that many persons would know the difference! And then there's always the necessity of someone to guard the watchman and the servant while the precious bauble was about.

But to return to Mrs. D. VAN-REEVES and her hales of gowns. Now we take great pride in not having grown hysterical at any time during this research, and we boast about our logical brain. But when we think of a bale of gowns coming in at regular intervals, our imagination goes absolutely berserk. Probably the creations are kept in filing cabinets, like books in a library. Conversation with one's maid would no doubt run like this:

"Fid, look through the non-fiction numbers and see what we have that's recent. We're dining with the Ambassador and I don't want to waste one of those new summer-romance creations on him. No, stupid! How did that velvet get out of file? It belongs in ancient history! You know what a cat the Ambassador's wife is—she's sure to have requisitioned at least a thrilling mystery. If I . . . how she could thrill anyone is a mystery to me. Oh well, better get me something from the juveniles. I'll make her look every minute of her age tonight."

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